

Protected Area Public Use Planning and Protected Area Interpretation/Education

Ugalla Game Reserve and Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Tanzania

OPPORTUNITY: The U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) International Technical Assistance Program (ITAP) is seeking qualified public use planners and protected area interpretation specialists to conduct two-week technical assistance and training assignments in Tanzania. These assignments may be held in either the Ugalla Game Reserve or in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

BACKGROUND: DOI ITAP provides assistance to developing countries on subjects of Departmental expertise, on a reimbursable basis. The program is currently operating in seventeen countries with support from organizations such as the U.S. Agency of International Development, the World Bank, and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Over the past 9 years, DOI-ITAP has managed a technical assistance program in Tanzania with financial support from the USAID Mission in Tanzania and logistical support from several NGOs, including the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) and Africare. DOI has and continues to provide technical assistance and training to Tanzania National Park and Wildlife Division staff, focusing on a wide variety of activities including: anti-poaching techniques and strategies, visitor services, infrastructure and interpretation development, wildfire management, and environmentally-friendly maintenance of park roads.

Under the USAID/Tanzania program, wildlife is being managed in a coordinated way across land owned or used by different stakeholders – including government authorities, community groups, private landholders, and land trusts. It is believed that the continued existence of Africa's large wildlife resource, in a time of increasingly fragmented land holdings, will require this sort of large-scale planning and resource management under diverse ownership. One of the key elements of this complex concept is that core areas provide an ecological and economic center which can be used to leverage larger areas for conservation. The Ugalla Game Reserve and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area provide such core areas.

ASSIGNMENT: The team selected for this assignment will provide follow-up public use planning and protected area interpretation assistance for the staff at the Ugalla Game Reserve and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. This assignment will continue to build off the efforts of DOI technical assistance teams that have completed training in these areas since 1998.

The public use planning team will work on developing a comprehensive public use plan for both the Ugalla Game Reserve and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. These plans will include as a cornerstone a well planned layout of visitor infrastructure and visitor flow based on the carrying capacity of its various zones, as well as the existing visitor and administrative infrastructure, crater access and road systems, and traffic flow. The plans may also include a general management plan for these areas. Completion of these complex plans will likely require one to

two return trips and time working from the travelers' base station. It is not required that the selected team members be available for the follow up trips, however, it is expected that the members from the various teams will work together to help bring subsequent teams up to speed, etc.

The protected area interpretation team will develop an overall visitor interpretation and educational plan for the crater area in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area that will focus on three to four principal interpretive themes. Included in this plan will be designs for new visitor center exhibits and interpretive panels to be installed along the roadways and in key select areas within the crater.

SCHEDULE: These assignments are expected to last for two weeks each and will begin, at the earliest, in May and June of 2008. The assignments will be scheduled according to the availability of the selected DOI experts and in coordination with in-country partners. All travel and in-country logistics will be handled by DOI.

PRE- AND POST-TRIP DUTIES: Background material will be provided to the selected individuals prior to departure, including general information about Tanzania and the DOI programs in Tanzania. The selected individuals will be expected to work in collaboration with the DOI-ITAP manager, USAID/Tanzania, AWF, Africare, and our other Tanzanian counterparts on the preparation and follow-up for the training over phone and email.

Within three weeks of the completion of the trip, the team will provide the DOI-ITAP manager a brief draft trip report of the trip events, evaluations made, and recommendations for future related training and technical assistance in Tanzania.

COSTS: The International Technical Assistance Program will cover all travel costs associated with this assignment (round-trip airfare, lodging, meals, immunizations, etc.). The salaries of the team members, however, will be paid by their employing DOI agency for the duration of the international assignment, including pre- and post-trip obligations.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Persons wishing to be considered for this assignment:

- Preferred to be a current employee or retiree of DOI (other USG agency employees will also be considered);
- Must have demonstrated experience in public use planning or protected area interpretation;
- Must have demonstrated ability to work with and adapt to the needs and abilities of agencies and professionals of different ethnic or cultural groups;
- Applicants must be willing to live in "rustic" conditions during this assignment;

- Experience and knowledge of working with local communities living near or within protected areas is desirable;
- Previous international experience is desirable.

Upon selection, candidates must submit a current physician-signed letter or medical review form indicating fitness for duty.

Candidates must have prior approval from their supervisors before applying for the assignment.

HOW TO APPLY

Persons interested in being considered for this international assignment should send a resume or letter summarizing relevant work experience, and a note indicating supervisory concurrence. A form SF 171 is acceptable. Please ensure that you include within your resume the following administrative information: home and work addresses, phone/fax numbers, social security number, supervisor name and phone number, whether you have a valid personal and/or official passport, date of birth, and grade/step. Please refer to our website, <http://www.doi.gov/intl/itap/> for further information about our program, other short-term opportunity announcements, and our travel guidelines.

Submit applications (electronically is preferred) to:

Emily Kilcrease
Office of International Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, MS 3530
Washington, DC 20240
Tel: (202) 208-7103
Fax: (202) 501-6381
E-mail: emily_kilcrease@ios.doi.gov

All applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, with a final deadline of April 18, 2008.

All NPS applicants should also copy their applications to Rudy D'Alessandro at NPS/OIA: rudy_dalessandro@nps.gov or fax 202-371-1446.

Selection Process

A short list of candidates will be interviewed by telephone. The entire selection process per trip may take a couple of months. All candidates will be notified of the results of the selection process by telephone, email or letter. As future public use planning and interpretation teams will be sent to these areas in 2008 and 2009, the selection process will be on a rolling basis (i.e., no application deadline, but the sooner the better to be considered for the first teams.)